

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 232000Z JUL 76
FM AMCONSUL VANCOUVER
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2918
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS VANCOUVER 0759

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BTIO, ELTN, CA
SUBJECT: ALASKA HIGHWAY: HAINES CUTOFF

REF: STATE 181296

1. THIS MORNING I CONSULTED WITH REGIONAL DIRECTOR, FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, W. KOROPATNICK. KOROPATNICK INFORMED ME THERE IS A NEW AREA OF DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA (GBC) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA (GOC) WHICH HAS IMPORTANT POLICY IMPLICATIONS. RESOLUTION OF THIS MATTER AND, THEREFORE, GOC/GBC AGREEMENT ON HAINES CUTOFF MAY TAKE WEEKS OR MONTHS.
2. AS PRICE OF ITS APPROVAL, GBC NOW REQUESTING: (1) FINANCIAL COMPENSATION FOR HAINES CUTOFF RIGHT-OF-WAY, (2) ROYALTY PAYMENTS FOR NATURAL CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL TAKEN FROM OUTSIDE THE RIGHT-OF-WAY AND USED IN ROAD BUILDING.
3. KOROPATNICK SAID THE CABINET AGREED TO CONSTRUCTION OF THE HIGHWAY WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THE RIGHT-OF-WAY WOULD BE GIVEN FREE OF CHARGE IN KEEPING WITH PAST PRACTICE. TO AGREE TO THESE NEW GBC DEMANDS WOULD BE TO ESTABLISH A PRECEDENT FOR SIMILAR DEMANDS BY ALL PROVINCES.
4. KOROPATNICK HAS LEARNED THAT A LETTER FROM PROVINCIAL MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT NIELSEN TO FEDERAL MINISTER OF PUBLIC

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WORKS DRURY IS UNDER PREPARATION, WHICH LETTER IS TO PROVIDE

PARTICULARS ON THIS NEW BC POLICY OF REQUIRING COMPENSATION
WHEN FEDERAL ROADS ARE CONSTRUCTED IN THE PROVINCE. THE
LETTER IS EXPECTED TO REACH MINISTER DRURY NEXT WEEK.
LUPPI

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